

South Dakota LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

News Release

December 19, 2003

RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR

SIOUX FALLS, December 19, 2003 – Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 80.6 million pounds during November 2003, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. This was up 8 percent from one year ago but down 9 percent from last month. For November, pork production was up from one year ago, while and sheep and lamb production was down.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 377,100 head during November compared to 346,400 head last year. Average live weight was 263 pounds, which was up 3 pounds from November 2002. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 376,000 head, which was comprised of 8,500 sows and 367,500 barrows and gilts.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 1,000 head during November, compared to 1,100 head last year. Average live weight was 120 pounds, which down 1 pound from November 2002. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 900 head of lambs and yearlings.

Commercial slaughter data for beef cattle is not published.

*For more information contact
Carter Anderson or Steve Noyes at
605-330-4235*